

The West Virginia Baptist Newsletter

October-November 2017

Your Role in the Changing Landscape at Camp Cowen



It is time for this picture of the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen to change. The Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center will change the landscape and the scope of ministry at Cowen.

The Camp Cowen Board members are challenging individuals and churches to partner with it to create a facility that will increase the capacity for activities at summer camp, increase the ministry of leadership training for the West Virginia Baptist Convention and increase the outreach to Webster County. We need the help of convention members to make this vision a reality at camp. There are many ways you can help:

1. **Share the vision,** check out www.campcowen for promotional videos
2. **Pray**
3. **Make your financial commitment**

The fundraising needs to happen in three phases to complete the facility. The three phases consist of three components to the building process: the builders, backers and legacy. Each of these components (described below) detail what can happen as the donations are made to the Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center.

Phase One - Builder: The first \$500,000 will allow the building to be ordered, foundation installed and utilities ready. The work of the builder phase is to share the purpose and vision, raise money and do the work at the location to raise the building.

Phase Two - Backer: The next \$500,000 will provide the funds to erect the structure and create a functional space for camp. This phase strategically plans for usage of the facility once it is complete. Occurring simultaneously with the work in phase one, the backer phase ensures the programs will be up and running when the building is complete.

Phase Three - Legacy: This \$500,000 will finish the building and complete the leadership classrooms and parking facilities. Phase three ensures the funding and planning needed to support this important mission beyond the initial building and launch phases. Just as the name would suggest, the legacy phase recognizes the need to look forward and work toward solid footing to allow the Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center to have a legacy long into the future.

What is your role? How do you intend to impact the ministry of the future with time and money you can give now? Looking at the numbers may seem like your contribution will not make much of a difference. Nehemiah had a big vision from God to rebuild the wall around Jerusalem - this seemed an insurmountable task, just think of the logistics. But, cost was tackled as each person did their part. It took the community of Israel to rebuild the wall. Notice how Nehemiah chapter three lists person after person who fulfilled their role, and together they worked to rebuild the wall. None of us can do this alone, but together with each person doing their piece, big and small, we will see the vision for the Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center come together.



Preparing the ground (above) and an artist rendering of the Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center (below).



There are several ways you can give to the Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center Campaign. Please pray about and consider which option is best for you.

1. **Write a check:** West Virginia Baptist Camp, Memo: Sunny Day Center
P.O. Box 1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102
2. **Give Online:** www.campcowen.org
Donate monthly over a two-year period.
3. **Donate appreciated assets** (stocks, bonds and properties) for full tax credit and no capital gains.


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The mission of the West Virginia Baptist Convention is to **empower** local churches to be Christ honoring communities of faith and to help them fulfill their mission by **enabling** them to do together what they cannot do alone.

by **Michael C. Stephens**, Interim Executive Minister



There's an App for That!

 The West Virginia Baptist Convention app is available for Android and Apple products. Download yours today!

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Meeting Current Challenges/Opportunities According to Our Can Do DNA!

During a recent farm short course, an almost official statement came forth that "we need to stop telling young people they cannot make a living in agriculture." To back this up, resources are being offered to help with such ventures as high tunnel farming, aquaculture and farm to table partnering with buy local initiatives by major food marketers and public institutions, greatly increasing opportunity for those willing to work hard at something they will love.

This same positive attitude is needed in the church even more. We need to emphasize the "can do" in Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." College students and others are ready to go and do ministry in Texas and wherever there is opportunity. We need to get behind them in prayer and every way possible.

Also in the news is the Nashville Statement, a Coalition for Biblical Sexuality, signed by a number of popular preachers and evangelical personalities. In light of our ABC-USA policy statement regarding human sexuality, some asked why our leaders did not sign the statement. While much in the document might fit with our denominational position, it was pointed out that many of the signatories are in denominations who ascribe to creeds (structured much like the aforementioned document), compilations of somewhat digested Biblical truths. In their denominational structures (they would say based on scripture) those creedal statements are usually binding on their constituent congregations.

Though there is usually little with which we Baptists might disagree in such statements, we believe firmly in soul liberty - the right and responsibility of every believer to discern from God's word what and how to believe.

Even in the statement above, there were a number of references to the need for compassionate and positive outreach to those caught up in gender confusion and relational dysfunction. I believe God would have us prayerfully



Dr. Michael Stephens

discern how best to reach out in love to so-called gender minorities most often marginalized from those who are challenged to "give a reason for the hope" that is in us.

The third current news story is Hurricane Harvey and the imminent arrival of Irma - the first alleged to be the worst natural disaster in United States history with the second threatening to even rival that. Our response to these overwhelming needs is built into our DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid) as Great Commission and Great Commandment people.

Each of these presents either a challenge or an opportunity to the body of Christ, depending on one's perspective. Each of these will also likely figure into some element of our ministry plans. More to the point, we must follow the Biblical peacemaker's principle - that conflict, problems and concerns are simply opportunities to show God's greatness.

As the new Executive Minister is not likely to be in place until well into January (interviews will not start until late October), I have the responsibility/privilege of leading in discerning the West Virginia Baptist Convention ministry plan as we begin 2018. The ministry plan is best described as the way we allocate our time, talent and treasure to accomplish the mission and fulfill the vision God has shown us.

One integral resource is our gifted and dedicated staff. From time to time over the years, I have heard church leaders refer to contributions by churches to West Virginia Baptist Convention and ABC-USA as administration or salaries as if money used for these things is not really contributing to missions. If this is your perspective, we invite you to ask any West Virginia Baptist Convention staff person to share how God works through them to accomplish our mission - to empower local churches to be Christ honoring communities of faith and to help them fulfill their mission by enabling them to do together what they cannot do alone. Any one of us will

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Adult Discipleship: Faith in the Workplace ***Discipleship Emphasis for 2018***

Consider the following questions:

- What does your faith tell you to do when you see bullying, harassment and prejudice in the workplace?
- Have you been a victim of faith discrimination, and how does your faith tell you to react?
- Does your faith and theology have a place in the workplace?
- Can your expression of faith in the workplace become an obstacle to others? What should the Christian do?
- Should there be a separation between the “church and the cubicle?”
- What is a Monday morning atheist and could you be one?

The *Discipleship Ministries* Commission for the West Virginia Baptist Convention will be emphasizing *Faith in the Workplace* during 2018. To prepare churches and individuals for this exciting and life changing emphasis, the commission will be sharing new resources and materials on the topic at the Annual

Meeting, October 19-20, 2017. There will be materials for large group study, small group study, studies on the job with colleagues and opportunities to receive weekly text alerts concerning faith in the workplace and discipleship. Church leaders can plan now for a relevant, applicable and significant study in 2018.

Additionally, there will be a workshop focusing on *Faith in the Workplace* held at the annual meeting on Friday, October 20, 2017. Look for more information in future editions of the *West Virginia Baptist Newsletter* and in the *Discipleship Now! Newsletter*. More information can be obtained by contacting Lisa Simmons, director of *Discipleship Ministries*, at lsimmons@wvbc.org.

The School of Christian Studies’ Digital Learning Initiative

Earlier this year, the West Virginia Baptist Convention *School of Christian Studies* launched a new training program called the *School of Christian Studies’ Digital Learning Initiative*. The idea of this endeavor is to provide quality instruction in the Bible, theology and basic ministry skills and concepts. This is to be accomplished by digitizing all the courses in the Pastoral Ministry Track of the *School of Christian Studies* and making them available to persons who struggle to receive training because of scheduling issues or lack of broadband internet.

Originally, these courses were only available to a select pilot group who had been recommended by their area minister. This pilot group is now on their third course. Starting in January 2018 with Old Testament I (B-01), the program will become available to all students. Information on how to participate will be included in future mailings.

How does this work?

- First, class lectures, handouts and other content will be digitized and delivered to students in an electronic format.
- Second, students will interact with instructors and each other through participation in an online discussion group.

Details of this program are available upon request.

Mark McCloy,
Director, School of Christian Studies

Three Year Cycle of Courses *School of Christian Studies*

<i>All Dates Subject to Change</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>
January-February (Six-Week Class)	<i>Old Testament One (B-01)</i>	<i>New Testament One (B-03)</i>	<i>Theology One (T-01)</i>
March/April (One-Day Class)	<i>Old Testament Two (B-02)</i>	<i>New Testament Two (B-04)</i>	<i>Theology Two (T-02)</i>
April/May-June (Six-Week Class)	<i>Weddings and Funerals (E-05)</i>	<i>Worship and Music (E-03)</i>	<i>Hospital Ministry (E-04)</i>
March/April (One-Day Class)	<i>Discipleship Essentials (M-02)</i>	<i>Church History (H-01)</i>	<i>Communicating God’s Word (M-01)</i>
June (One-Day Class)	<i>Baptism and Communion (E-06)</i>	<i>Baptist Polity (E-01)</i>	<i>WV Baptist History (E-02)</i>
August (One-Day Class)	<i>Evangelism (Mod-6)</i>	<i>Making Peace (Mod-4)</i>	<i>Community Ministry (Mod-5)</i>
September-October (Six-Week Class)	<i>Leading People (M-05)</i>	<i>Teacher Training (M-03)</i>	<i>Caring for People (M-04)</i>
October (One-Day Class)	<i>Intro to Missions (Mod-3)</i>	<i>Creating Community (Mod-1)</i>	<i>Ministerial Ethics (Mod-2)</i>

More Than Just a Dairy Farm

God has placed His watchcare over *Parchment Valley Conference Center*. One discovers this reading through the archived history of Parchment Valley, seeing the many challenges faced, even from the beginning.

The sale of another tract of land was pending until Rev. Vairl Winters heard from his brother the Hyree Brothers' Dairy Farm was being sold. Pastor Vairl and his brother immediately made the call to meet the Hyree family. The brothers pleaded with them that if the land was sold to another farmer it would always be just a dairy farm, but if the land was sold to the West Virginia Baptist Convention, it would become so much more than that.

In the fall of 1965, \$12,000 was raised, and the same year Mr. Roy Keys, chairman of the board of trustees presented a check for \$44,000 to purchase the land, which would be the new site for *Parchment Valley Conference Center*. Soon thereafter, the mission statement would be adopted: *"A place where lives are changed."* It is with great joy the *Parchment Valley Conference Center* Board of Directors and I continue to live out this vision, where season after season people grow stronger in their relationship with the Lord.

Each challenge and opportunity at *Parchment Valley* is bathed in prayer and moved forward through the many hands of our donors and volunteers. Recently, I asked a dear friend and dedicated volunteer why they gave so much of themselves for the ministry of *Parchment Valley*. Their response was overwhelming, "This is what God puts on my heart and He provides every need, and is the divine driving force behind it all!"

This year was our 17th year of Brothers' Keeper. God made His presence known as 175 youth and adults from West Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania united in fellowship, displaying a servant's heart to assist and minister to broken and struggling

families by completing 50 homeowners' projects in Jackson County. Thanks to the many sponsors and volunteers who make this possible.

During our camps and conferences this summer, many souls were saved and individuals made commitments to serve the Lord with all their heart.

The broken bridge damaged by flooding this summer was rebuilt by men and women working with the West Virginia American Baptist Men's Disaster Relief team.

Members from the West Virginia American Baptist Women's Ministries donated their time and finances to remodel room four in the Administration Building, "The Barn." We are now ready to dedicate the old lower lodge room, Deem nine, into a new lodge room, built by a labor of love to be dedicated to our dear friend, Dorothy Santrock.

Many people have faithfully worked together for the good of *Parchment Valley Conference Center*. The stories of *"lives being changed"* always resonate in my heart as we move to the next season. On behalf of the staff, who passionately

seek to do a good work here, thank you for your business and support.

One way to support the ministry here is to join or renew your membership to the Don Loudemilk Society. Please contact me at 800.489.8564 or go to parchmentvalley.org to learn how to support this ministry and schedule your next event at *Parchment Valley Conference Center*.



Parchment Valley Conference Center: "A place where lives are changed."

by **John Simmons**, Associate Executive Minister
Missions and Administration

A Picture of Health

"A tree is recognized by its fruit." Matthew 12:33

How do you measure the health of your church? There are lots of instruments available to help churches assess health. They look at various metrics of church life and evaluate them based on the bias of the instrument. Some of the measured metrics include: finances, fellowship, attendance, baptisms, outreach, mission involvement, growth and pastoral longevity. Such instruments can be valuable to church leadership serious about their church being - staying - becoming a healthy church.

Jesus gave us a simple directive when He told us to "go and make disciples of all nations." I believe the most effective measure of church health is this: Are you making disciples?

The same measure can be used for us as we work to do together what we cannot do alone. How is the West Virginia Baptist Convention doing in its mission to make disciples in the mountain state?



Many came to wish Juan (2nd from right, back row), Denise (right, back row), Juancito (right, yellow shirt) and Hefziba (right, pink shirt) well as they departed for Mexico.

We can celebrate 61 first-time decisions at Camp Cowen this summer. We can pat ourselves on the back about the 500 students in Baptist Campus Ministries' (BCM) services each week. We can be thankful for the School of Christian Studies training people for service. We can look with pride on the multitude of ministries and services we provide. But are we as effective as we should be in making disciples?

Jesus said, *"Make the tree good and it will bear good fruit. Make the tree bad and it will bear bad fruit."* (Matthew 12:33)

We can make our churches and our Convention good or bad! The fruit of our work is evidence of whether we are working to make our churches and our Convention good.

The picture of those who gathered for a prayer of "sending" for the Aragonis is a picture of health. It depicts our commitment to "go and send" as Jesus commanded. As a tree is known by its fruit, the West Virginia Baptist Convention is known by its passion and commitment for missions. Let us continue to work together to make the "tree" good, so the fruit will always be good.

Committed to Missions



WORLD MISSION CONFERENCE

July 3-9, 2018

Celebrate July 4th in Green Lake, Wisconsin!

Cost: \$800

Your cost includes:

- Double Occupancy at Green Lake
- Conference Meals • Hotels in Route.

Additional costs: • International Ministries' Conference Fee

- Meals in Route • Personal Spending

Deposit of \$200 due by January 15, 2018.

Payments of \$150 each are due by February, March, April and May.

Registration forms available online at www.wvbc.org.

For more information, contact Joan at hall@wvbc.org or 304.422.6449.

Take Root, Bear Fruit

If we want to grow beautiful flowers or a plentiful garden harvest, we know some of the most important things are those we cannot see: quality soil and healthy roots. In the gospels, we read of Jesus' parable of the sower and the seed scattered across four types of soil: the hard path, rocky soil, thorny ground and fertile soil. It is easy to understand the difficulty seed would have taking root and bearing abundance anywhere but the fertile ground.

Our theme this summer at the *West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen* was, "Take Root, Bear Fruit." *"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."* Colossians 2:6-7 As it turns out, we can learn much about growing disciples of Christ as with growing plants. To grow in our walk with the Lord and to bear fruit, we must be firmly rooted in Christ. The camping ministry allows us the chance to tend the soil of the campers, be it like the hard path, rocky, thorny or fertile as their faith takes root and bears the fruit of the Spirit.

The directors, leaders and counselors were equipped by God to discern and minister to the campers' needs as hearts were opened to hear and respond to the gospel. Ministry to those facing temptation occurred, healing and care were given to deep hurts of the campers and discipleship took place week after week. God is good. Watching the Lord at work is beyond amazing. Praise God!

This summer 1,748 campers attended *Camp Cowen* and 61 campers made first-time decisions to follow Christ. There were more than 126 rededications and 12 campers heard the call to full time service. What a summer to celebrate God at work growing the roots of faith and bearing fruit in the lives of thousands of campers! You can see God at work in the numbers, you can hear it in the stories and you can see it in the faces of those who've been here this summer.



Exploring nature and growing friendships at camp.

The seasons have shifted to fall and the leaves aren't the only things that change. Rental groups and weekend events fill the calendar for us as we look to another year of ministry in 2018 at the *West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen*, "Where people

meet Jesus and grow as His disciples in a community of faith."

Stay connected through the webpage for updates on the Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center, videos from 2017, the 2018 schedule and applications for staff and counseling. Thank you for your prayers and support for the camping ministry and as my family and I have made the transition to being part of the West Virginia Baptist Convention family!



Powerful times of worship as we grow in the word.

Letting Your Light Shine Before Others: West Virginia Baptists Respond to Recent Flooding

Jesus said, "... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16 (ESV)

Certainly, both Jesus' command and comment apply to the way we live our lives every day. On July 29, 2017 and the days that followed, West Virginia Baptists were called upon to step things up a notch in the "light shining" department. Heavy rains fell July 28, 2017, causing flash flooding and mudslides in the Northern Panhandle and North Central areas of the state. Communities such as Hundred, Littleton, Mannington, McMechen, Wadestown and Wallace as well as the surrounding areas, experienced loss of homes, businesses and essential services.

As they have in the past, West Virginia Baptists quickly responded to help those in need. While it is impossible to mention every



Mannington

church, organization and individual involved in the monumental task of recovery, following are some examples of those who were light-radiating people whose good works brought glory to their Father in heaven.

Always ready to go where needed, the West Virginia American Baptist Men's Disaster Relief Team, led by John Vannoy, initially responded to mudslides in McMechen. They continue to work in the other areas affected.



Flood supplies arriving in Hundred

Pastor Jason Sleeth and members of Harmony Baptist Church (Fairmont), wasted no time in responding to the needs in Hundred and Littleton. In addition to hands-on relief efforts in the immediate aftermath of the flooding, the church formed a Flood Relief Committee to coordinate and distribute aid where needed.

The church also has

been instrumental in planning events and worship opportunities to encourage and lift the spirits of the community.

Water in the basement of the church and parsonage did not stop Pastor Greg Roth and members of Mannington First Baptist Church (Fairmont) from helping their community. A member of the church said the fact that a number of church members did not suffer significant loss allowed them more opportunity to help those in the community who did.



Pastor Jason Sleeth praying with people in Hundred



Clean-up in Hundred

West Virginia Baptists, both churches and individuals from all over the state, collected and sent supplies, contributed funds, sent work crews or simply showed up on their own. Some of the first responders were from areas affected by last year's devastating flood. Financial contributions allowed the West Virginia Baptist Convention to offer grants to help rebuild.

Thank you, every church, organization and individual, who chose to be light-radiating people during a time of crisis and need. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for the relief efforts. Thank you for your good works, so others might see them and glorify, not you, but your Father in heaven.

David Hulme, Northeast Area Minister

The West Virginia Baptist Convention

152nd Annual Meeting

Keynote Speaker:
Jeffrey Jones



Author of several books, including *Facing Decline*, *Finding Hope: New Possibilities for Faithful Churches*

Guest Speaker:
Lee Spitzer



General Secretary,
American Baptist Churches USA



Bridge of Hope

Thursday, October 19 - Friday, October 20, 2017

New Baptist Church, Huntington

HOPE

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
John 14:6

Annual Sermon Speaker:
Trent Eastman



Pastor,
New Baptist Church,
Huntington

Interim Executive Minister:
Dr. Michael Stephens



West Virginia Baptist Convention

PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

Thursday, October 19

Women's Day - American Baptist Women's Ministries of West Virginia

Theme: Just Do It ... For Jesus
Speaker: Olivia Goodwin
Missionary Speaker: Debbie Myers

Location: New Baptist Church
Registration: 9:00 a.m. - program begins at 9:30 a.m.
Lunch: Will be provided for \$8.00.
Nursery provided for preschool children.
Contact: Mary Ann Wilson
at mawilson@hughes.net, 304.927.3667 or 304.377.1512

Pastors4Pastors:

The Ministers' Council

Location: Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, 1135 5th Ave, Huntington 25701
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.
Speaker: Jeffrey Jones

Topic: Facing Decline - Finding Hope
Cost: Members - \$10.00, Non-Members - \$25.00, includes lunch

Contact: Anthony Pratt - anthony_pratt@hotmail.com or 304.837.7905 or William Thomas - kb8sn@suddenlink.net or 304.482.0681

Purchase tickets on the Annual Meeting registration form.
No Shuttle Available.

American Baptist Men

Location: Museum of Radio and Technology, 1640 Florence Ave, Huntington 25701
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Depart from the church at 9:30 a.m.
Cost: \$10.00 - HoneyBaked Ham
Contact/R.S.V.P.: Frank Miller at miller@wvbc.org or 304.372.3675
Shuttle Available.



SCHEDULE:

Thursday, October 19

9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Pre-Convention Activities

2:45 p.m. Session 1 - Sanctuary

Welcome and Opening Prayer -

Mark Wood

Annual Sermon - Trent Eastman

Business Meeting 1 - Mark Wood

5:00 p.m. - Dinner Break

Baptist Campus Ministries' Banquet

6:30 p.m. Session 2 - Sanctuary

Welcome and Opening Prayer -

David Hoge

School of Christian Studies'

Graduation - Mark McCloy

Ward Hibbs Award - Tim Barry

Keynote Speaker - Jeffrey Jones

8:30 p.m.

Celebration of David Carrico's Ministry

Alderson Broadus University

Reception

Friday, October 20

8:30 a.m. Session 3 - Sanctuary

Welcome and Opening Prayer -

Doris Toothman

Interim Executive Minister Address -

Michael Stephens

9:45 a.m. - Workshop Session I

10:30 a.m. - Break

10:45 a.m. - Workshop Session II

12:00 noon - Lunch Break

Luncheon Opportunities

Ministers' Spouses' Luncheon

Palmer Theological Seminary

Luncheon

1:45 p.m. - Workshop Session III

2:45 p.m. Session 4 - Sanctuary

Welcome and Opening Prayer -

Mark Wood

Business Meeting 2 - Mark Wood

James Anderson, Sr. Pastoral Ministry

Award

Installation of Officers

Guest Speaker - Lee Spitzer

Communion

Directions:

East on I-64 from Kentucky:

- Take Exit 11 and turn left onto Hal Greer Boulevard.
- Continue to 5th Avenue (US

Delegate Registration

Registration Fee:

(Please check the meal reservations you wish to secure and include the cost with your total registration. Registration packet and meal ticket(s) will be available for pickup at the annual meeting registration area.)

Please use a separate form for each person. (Copy as needed.)

Name:	
Name on Tag:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
E-mail:	Phone:
Church:	
Association:	

DELEGATES MUST HAVE THIS FORM SIGNED BY CHURCH CLERK OR PASTOR.

Clerk or Pastor signature:

	\$20.00 - Delegate or Visitor Fee Required Fee - Please Circle One Above.
	\$10.00 - Baptist Campus Ministries' Banquet
	\$10.00 - Members Ministers' Council Event (Includes Lunch)
	\$25.00 - Non-Members Ministers' Council Event (Includes Lunch)
	\$12.00 - Ministers' Wives' Fellowship Luncheon Circle one: Pulled Chicken Sandwich or Lunch Salad with Grilled Chicken
	\$10.00 - Palmer Theological Seminary Luncheon
	Total Enclosed Make checks payable to WVBC and mail to: Annual Meeting Registrar, P.O. Box 1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102.

Child Care:

Please check appropriate box(es). List names and ages of children.

Women's Day	WVBC Session 1	WVBC Session 2	WVBC Session 3	WVBC Session 4

Registration Deadline:

Please have your registration postmarked, with money enclosed by October 16, 2017.

Route 60 East) and turn right. • Travel 12 blocks and turn right onto 28th Street.
• The church is 1/2 block on the left.

West on I-64 from Charleston:

- Take Exit 15 (29th Street) and merge

right on RR 60 West. • Continue on US Route 60 (3.7 miles) to 3rd Avenue and turn left. • Travel three blocks and turn left on 28th Street. • The church is 2 1/2 blocks on the left.

Weirton Christian Center Celebrates 100th Anniversary and Groundbreaking for New Building

By the time you read this article, the *Weirton Christian Center* will have achieved two huge milestones: our 100th anniversary and the groundbreaking for our new building. Our commemorative Christmas ornament was distributed to all those in attendance, along with a CD of Christian music and a Gideon Bible. We were so glad to have a full table representing our West Virginia Baptist Convention family and Marilyn Turner-Triplett to represent the American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) sponsorship.

Our new plans are complete and the new project budget is being determined through some “value” engineering, but by having a 22’ x 40’ addition to accommodate our storage needs, the elevator and parking lot with 36 spaces, we know the price will be going up, and it could be a huge difference! We are still accepting donations for the Build-a-Building Project and the donor bricks. If all goes as planned, we are hoping to be finished with the building and moved in by fall 2018. We welcome any mission teams for finishing things off. Please let us know if you are able to help paint, clean or help in any other way. We cannot thank our West Virginia Baptist family enough for all the financial support and ongoing prayers. We will keep you posted on the progress.

Our summer program featured *Super Heroes of the Bible*, and we ended the summer at camp with a full week about the ultimate super hero, Jesus! Many hearts were moved. We ended the week with five baptisms and the importance of being disciples. One of our little girls who has wanted to give her heart to Jesus for the last year and be baptized, finally was. When I picked her up for church the first week after camp, she said, “I am so tired of trying to convince my brother Jesus is God’s son and He came to save us from our sins, and He is coming back! I have been talking to him all week, but I’ll keep trying!” And she will! We are making disciples.

We have started our fall programs and the kids were out in full force on the first day. We are transporting children to and from the Tri-State Christian Academy, our preschool and are taking kids from kindergarten through 12th grade home after the afterschool program. While we have them, the preschool is served lunch and after school they are served dinner, receive homework help and have computer access. In the next month, we will also be starting dance and music lessons. There is no charge for any of our students. There is no other program like ours in the valley, but they are trying to duplicate our program in downtown Steubenville, Ohio. We serve a large population of children in the extremely poor category - 83% of our children fall in the 30% and below poverty level. We survive solely on donations, foundations and grants. We value our West Virginia Baptist family for being so generous in giving to our ministry.

In January 2018, we will be losing our monthly financial support from American Baptist Home Mission Societies that comes from the America For Christ Offering. We would truly appreciate being considered for a portion of your church’s annual mission giving.

Moving into a new building next year brings with it many unknown variables. If you would like more information to take to your congregation, please feel free to call *Weirton Christian Center* at 304.748.2353, me at 304.479.2140 or e-mail kim@weirtonchristiancenter.com. I would be glad to come to your church service or a meeting. Thanks so much for all the support and prayers you provide for us. For 100 years, your partnership has been so crucial to our existence! We cannot thank you enough for all you have done and continue to do for the children we serve! You are making a difference in so many lives!



The Weirton Christian Center 100th Anniversary Emblem



Attendees from the 2017 Weirton Christian Center Camp

Jim Anderson, Southeast Area Minister

Scott Street Baptist Presents Check for House of Hope in Bolivia

On July 30th, 2017, at Scott Street Baptist Church (Greenbrier Raleigh), as a part of its Mission Sunday, Rev. Garry Moore, Sr., pastor, surprised and presented a check for \$1,000 to Rev. Jim Anderson, Southeast Area Minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention to support House of Hope ministries in Bolivia, South America after his morning message.



Garry Moore, Sr. (r), pastor, Scott Street Baptist Church, presents Jim Anderson, West Virginia Baptist Convention Southeast Area Minister, with a check for the House of Hope.

Garry shared with Jim that they are honored to be part of Greenbrier-Raleigh Association, West Virginia Baptist Convention and American Baptist Churches, USA, and are thankful as it has enabled them to meet their goal of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ, not only in Bluefield, West Virginia and Virginia, but to the whole world!

Jim thankfully accepted their gift, and not only praised them on their faithfulness to our mission together, but also encouraged them as they continue to raise funds to build a new church in downtown Bluefield.

Genesis Fellowship Book of Psalms

by Mark Jarrell
pastor, Genesis Fellowship (Kanawha Valley)

It all started with a two-week sermon series on the Book of Psalms. After the second sermon, God had me challenge the congregation to prayerfully write a psalm to Him. They were asked to write a praise psalm, a lament or one of wisdom. They were encouraged to step out of their comfort zone and just do it for themselves and for God. Many were scared. Others did not want to do it and some just didn't. But, in the end, and after five weeks of writing and rewriting, the church congregation submitted 136 wonderful psalms.

To say we have been blown away by the heartfelt praise or deep soul anguish of these writings is putting it mildly. This body of believers has given each other and anyone who reads this book some very important ideas to contemplate and discuss. This book will make you laugh, cry or take a deep breath as you enter into the praise of God or the scream of the need of assistance and final realization God is the answer.

God's challenge was even answered by a recent high school graduate who didn't want to write a psalm, but asked if she could illustrate her psalms, and of course, we answered yes. The six illustrations tell her story, just like each psalm paints the picture of the author's heart. We even had some of our home



Members of Genesis Fellowship with their church's Book of Psalms.

Harvey Receives Baileysville Baptist Covenant

On June 25th, 2017, at Baileysville Baptist Church (Rockcastle Association), a church covenant was presented to pastor, Rev. Ron Harvey. The covenant was obtained by Rev. Jim Anderson, Southeast Area Minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention after a request was made by Mrs. Zenith Harless, Rockcastle Association representative to the West Virginia Baptist Convention Executive Board and member of Baileysville Baptist Church.



Ron Harvey (c), pastor, Baileysville Baptist Church, is presented with a church covenant by Jim Anderson, and Zenith Harless.

Zenith had the covenant framed, and both she and Jim presented the covenant to Ron after Jim's morning message in song and sermon based on the covenant.

Ron shared his thanks and appreciation on behalf of the entire congregation, and a fellowship celebration luncheon was held afterwards.

Southwest Area News

Max Hill, Southwest Area Minister

groups join together to write their psalm and they are all excellent.

If anyone would like to purchase one of these books, the cost is \$10 plus shipping (to cover costs). Please call the church office at 304.744.7979 to place your order.

THE CHALLENGE

We, the congregation of Genesis Fellowship, have grown deeper with God through the process of completing our psalms and publishing this book. [We want each church in West Virginia to have this experience too.](#) So ... pastors, preach on the Book of Psalms. Church congregation: listen, learn and then write to God. Collect them and put them into a book, either by yourself or one of the publishing companies, like we did. If you have any questions, we would enjoy helping you every step of the way. Wouldn't it be fantastic, that at our 153rd West Virginia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting, that 35 or 68 or 232 or 413 churches would have their Book of Psalms available for everyone to enjoy. That would be awesome and it would make God smile!

"...all things are possible with God."

Mark McCloy, Northwest Area Minister

God's Network

Most of the time I focus this article on what someone is doing or has done - an event or a ministry, something that might give you ideas that could work in your church or association. But today I thought I might go in a slightly different direction. An experience I had last week reminded me of a simple truth - we are never really alone. (Yes, I know the scriptures tell us that, because God is always with us. But I'm talking about God's family in general, and West Virginia Baptists more specifically.)

Recently, I have been recovering from foot surgery, and this has kept me mostly at home. But last week I had a day with two different doctors' appointments that brought me out into the daylight. I donned my new Camp Cowen shirt and headed out. My wife was my designated driver for the day, and we began with a short stop at Panera bread, hoping to catch a bagel and some coffee before the first appointment. As I made my way from the coffee to my seat, a gentleman asked, "Do you spend much time at that camp?" A discussion ensued, and I found out my new found friend went to one of our Parkersburg churches and had spent time with the West Virginia American Baptist Men working at Cowen.

After a brief breakfast, we headed off to Williamstown and my first appointment. Time passed and eventually I was called back. As I sat in the exam room, the nurse noticed my shirt and told me she had grown up attending Camp Cowen. She had wonderful memories of her time spent there. We shared our mutual joy in the place and the life-changing experiences that

happen there. The world seemed a little smaller.

It was now time to go on to lunch. We went to a restaurant in Vienna, and as we prepared to order, the waiter noticed my Camp Cowen shirt. He informed us his daughters had been to camp just a few weeks ago and they both had a very good time. We shared three of our kids had also been there this summer - two as campers and one as a counselor. All of us shared what a joy it was to see them grow in their faith. Our family now seemed just a little bigger.

After lunch, it was time for yet another doctor appointment, this one in Belpre. It was time for my staples to come out. As the lady prepared her tools to remove them, she noticed my shirt. She too was a Cowen alum and had spent much time there as a youth. By now, I was not surprised to find another veteran of Camp Cowen - even in Ohio.

Finally, on the way home, I was thirsty and managed to work in a stop at McDonald's for a tea. As the teenager took my order and handed me my cup, two of them noticed my shirt. You guessed it, they had been to Camp Cowen just this summer. Your family is bigger than you think. If you don't believe me, I'm sure Rob or Jill still has some of those shirts. God's network is all around us, and it is surely exciting to see just a small glimpse into the profound work He is doing among us. As a Christian and a West Virginia Baptist, you are part of something bigger than yourself. Without you, and the others that make up this great network of believers, ministries like Camp Cowen could not happen.

Northwest Area News

David Hulme, Northeast Area Minister

Mount Carmel Celebrates 90th Anniversary

Mount Carmel Baptist Church (Union) celebrated their homecoming and 90th anniversary August 27, 2017. The celebration included a fellowship time, a time of praise and worship, a slide presentation of past events, a worship service featuring a time for people to share memories and a dinner. Rev. David Hulme, Northeast Area Minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention, presented a certificate from the West Virginia Baptist Convention honoring the occasion. Rev. Leon Brown is pastor.



The Mount Carmel Choir sings for the anniversary celebration.

Goshen Celebrates 180th Anniversary

Goshen Baptist Church (Goshen) celebrated their 180th anniversary August 6, 2017. The church was organized August 2, 1837 by J.W.B. Tisdale and John Curry. Although renovated over the years, the congregation still worships in the original sanctuary, the oldest church building in Monongalia County. Rev. Dan Meadows is the pastor.

Judson Association Holds Youth Back to School Rally

The Judson Association held its annual *Back to School Rally* for the youth of the association. The event, held at Ten Mile Baptist Church (Judson), was attended by approximately 80 people. The event featured a cook-out, games, gift card give-away, music by the DASH Youth Choir and a short message.



The youth and their families enjoy a cookout at the Judson Rally celebration.

Children's Rally

November 4, 2017

**Parchment Valley
Conference Center**

I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way. What you have done is wonderful. I know this very well. Psalm 139:14

Theme: Emotions



Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.

For more information, please contact Valma at adams@wvbc.org or 304.422.6449.

Young Receives License to Gospel Ministry

Austin Young, youth pastor at Mount Zion Baptist Church (Parkersburg) received a certificate of License to Gospel Ministry from Leary W. Vanhorn, Pastor, Elizabeth Baptist Church (Parkersburg) on July 16, 2017.

Coal River Picnic

On August 20, 2017, the Coal River Association held its annual picnic at Lions' Park in Alum Creek. A good crowd from several of the association's churches gathered for a time of food, fellowship and fun.

A short time of worship is always part of the picnic. Bill Cook, of Madison Baptist Church (Coal River) led the congregational music for the afternoon, while West Virginia Baptist Convention Southwest Area Minister, Max Hill brought a short devotion.

The association surprised Dr. Hill by celebrating his ministry. They presented him with cards and gifts. Two "retirement cakes" provided dessert for the occasion.

Leadership Update

REV. TOM BURRILL to South Fork Baptist Church (Harrisville) as pastor on March 1, 2017

REV. RICK GARAVAGLIA to Gassaway Baptist Church (Elk Valley) as associate pastor on August 1, 2017

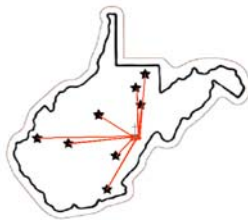
REV. PHILIP WAYMAN to Clarksburg Baptist Church (Union) as senior pastor on August 14, 2017



Baptist Campus Ministries'

**Fall
Retreat**

**October 20-22, 2017
Camp Cowen**



Speakers:

Keith and Debbie Myers

Keith and Debbie are appointed as American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionaries to Central Mexico. They partner with the Council of Rural Indigenous Evangelicals of Mexico (CICEM) to provide pastoral accompaniment to the indigenous churches.



Worship: West Virginia Tech Praise and Worship Band

Attention College Students:

Come join us for our fall weekend retreat, where we will enjoy times of teaching, worship and fellowship. If you plan to attend, please complete the registration at www.wvbc.org and mail along with your check to: BCM Fall Retreat, P.O. Box 1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102.

Jr. High Convention 2017

**November
17-19, 2017**



**Crab Orchard
Missionary
Baptist Church**

Speaker: Elliott Gregory

Worship Leader: Caleb Villers and Friends

Cost: \$35.00

**- Early Bird Registration,
postmarked by November 6, 2017**

**\$45.00 - Late Registration,
postmarked after November 6, 2017**

*Junior High Convention is a weekend long event
designed for students in grades 6-9.*

*Following the theme of the 2017-18 school year, the focus of this
event will be on endurance as we run the race.*

... Commentary continued from page 2

welcome the opportunity to explain this in specific Biblical terms, and especially how we are *Bridges of Hope*.

By God's grace and with your faithful giving, we are accomplishing our mission by facilitating flood relief in northern and southern West Virginia, and soon in Texas; supporting and sending missionaries around the world (the Aragon's are flying to Mexico as I write this); strategizing for entrepreneurial ministries using Parchment Valley Conference Center and the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen; and discipling and nurturing yet to be followers of Christ through student ministries, through youth and camping as well as Baptist Campus Ministries (BCM). Space is not sufficient to list all the local church ministries which grow believers and offer hope to people with numerous hurts, habits and hang-ups.

So, though I cannot tell you what our staff configuration may be in 2018 (that will largely be in the hands of the new Executive Minister), I can tell you it will reflect our only purpose for being - you the local church and the mission and ministry we do together. I also appreciate your ideas and insights and especially your prayers as we continue to see God work during this transition time.

God's word challenges us to see the opportunities for positive witness even in the most awful and awkward circumstances and situations. James 1:2-4 says, "Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing." James later follows up in verse 25: "But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed by what he does." NKJV

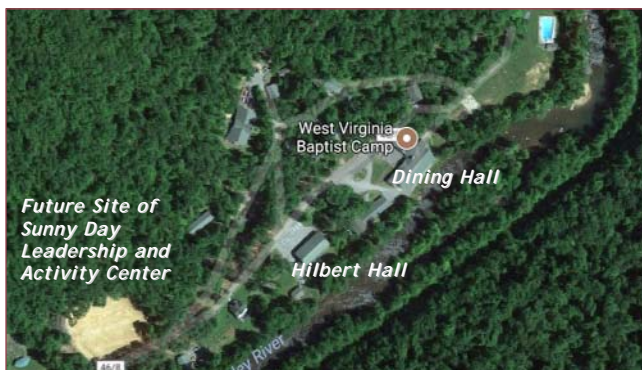
... Cowen continued from page 1

4. **Direct IRA transfer.** If you are over 70, you can take advantage of this limited opportunity to transfer IRA holdings to the campaign without income tax implications.

Contact Jennifer or John at 304.422.6449 for more information on how to make major gifts.

The Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center has, at its heart, a big vision to develop leadership within West Virginia Baptist churches and to reach the surrounding communities with the gospel. Will you help change the landscape of the West Virginia Baptist Camp to meet the needs of future generations?

Rob Ely
Director, Student Ministries



June - September 2017

UHEL ADKINS, 89, of Davin, died August 23, 2017. He was a member of Cyclone Missionary Baptist Church (Rockcastle), where he served as a layman, Sunday School teacher, deacon, director of Vacation Bible School and choir member.

ISAAC C. AURELIO, "IKE," 87, died August 29, 2017. He was a member of Goshen Baptist Church (Goshen) and faithfully sang tenor in church choirs, quartets and performed solos. He was also a professor at Alderson Broaddus University.

MARY JEAN BERG, 89, of Jane Lew, died August 18, 2017. She was a member of Broad Run Baptist Church (Broad Run), where she played the piano for over 50 years.

TREVA JUANITA BERRY, 86, died July 7, 2017. She was a long standing member of Sutton Baptist Church (Elk Valley), where she became the first female usher.

DENNIS H. BOGGS, 56, of Charleston, died July 20, 2017. He was a member of Diamond Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) for 44 years, where he had served as Sunday School superintendent.

RONALD E. CLAY, 78, of Pineville, died August 8, 2017. He was a devoted member of Cook Memorial Baptist Church (Rockcastle) for over 50 years. He served on several church boards as well as serving as a deacon.

RAYMOND FOX, 88, of Weirton, died July 6, 2017. He was a longtime, loyal member of Weirton Heights Memorial Baptist Church (Panhandle), where had been active through the years as a deacon, trustee, member of men's fellowship and the Pairs and Spares' class. He also served over 50 years on the board of directors of the Weirton Christian Center.

CHARLOTTE (FLETCHER) GILLESPIE, 84, of Moorestown, New Jersey, died June 23, 2017. She was an American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) alumna.

GERALDINE "GERRY" SMITH MATHENY, 89, died September 3, 2017. She was a faithful member of North Parkersburg Baptist Church (Parkersburg), where she served as a deaconess, Sunday School teacher, Project Hope mentor, Heavenly Helper, Prayer Team Member, Bible School and Friendship Kitchen volunteer.

WILLIAM (BILL) J. SHANNON, died July 30, 2017. He was a member of Moundsville Baptist Church (Panhandle). He was a retired minister with over 50 years of service.

JOHN O. SILVEY, 70, of Hurricane, died August 18, 2017. He was an active member of Hurricane First Baptist Church (Teays Valley). He was a member of the choir, taught Sunday School for many years and spent many hours working the church audio.

STEWART D. "DAN" WALKUP, 79, of Parkersburg, died July 12, 2017. He was a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church (Parkersburg), where he served as a deacon and usher.

October

OCTOBER 1 - Tracie Emerick, Outreach assistant and printer, West Virginia Baptist Convention
OCTOBER 2 - Juan Aragon, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Mexico
OCTOBER 3 - Debbie Myers, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Mexico
OCTOBER 4 - The ministry of Calvary Baptist Church; Greg Swisher, pastor (Fayette)
OCTOBER 5 - The ministry of Old Greenbrier Baptist Church; William Bryan, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)
OCTOBER 6 - The ministry of New Found Freedom Baptist Church; Lloyd Stewart, pastor (Little Kanawha)
OCTOBER 7 - The West Virginia Baptist Convention Executive Board meets today at Parchment Valley Conference Center
OCTOBER 8 - Patti Long, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Mexico
OCTOBER 9 - Linda VanMeter, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
OCTOBER 10 - The ministry of Antioch Baptist Church; Larry Peck, pastor (Hopewell)
OCTOBER 11 - The ministry of Beulah Baptist Church; David Bess, pastor (Union)
OCTOBER 12 - Hannah Witmer, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Thailand
OCTOBER 13 - Kihomi Ngwemi, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Haiti
OCTOBER 14 - The ministry of South Charleston First Baptist Church; Jody Pistore, pastor (Kanawha Valley)
OCTOBER 15 - The ministry of LifeSpring Community Church; Mary Beth McCloy, pastor (Good Hope)
OCTOBER 16 - The ministry of Willow Tree Baptist Church; David Knotts, pastor (Fairmont)
OCTOBER 17 - Rick Marshall, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
OCTOBER 18 - Scott Parajon, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Nicaragua
OCTOBER 19 - The West Virginia Baptist Convention 152nd Annual Meeting begins today at New Baptist Church (Guyandotte)
OCTOBER 20 - The Baptist Campus Ministries' Fall Retreat begins today at Camp Cowen
OCTOBER 21 - Will Bolick, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Chile
OCTOBER 22 - The ministry of Sutton Baptist Church; Allan Copenhaver, pastor (Elk Valley)
OCTOBER 23 - The ministry of Elizabeth Baptist Church; Leary Vanhorn, pastor (Parkersburg)
OCTOBER 24 - The ministry of Danville First Baptist Church; Geoffrey Saunders, pastor (Coal River)
OCTOBER 25 - The ministry of Bethel Baptist Church; John Vetter, pastor (Eastern)
OCTOBER 26 - Carol Moats, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
OCTOBER 27 - The ministry of Victory Baptist Church; Dennis Napier, pastor (Broad Run)
OCTOBER 28 - Donald "Doc" Adkins, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
OCTOBER 29 - Glen Chapman, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
OCTOBER 30 - The ministry of Wolf Run Baptist Church; Jim Higginson, pastor (Panhandle)
OCTOBER 31 - The ministry of North Shinnston Baptist Church; Jeff Dytzel, pastor (Judson)

November

NOVEMBER 1 - The ministry of Judson Baptist Church (Teays Valley)
NOVEMBER 2 - Awenam Anifrani, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Togo
NOVEMBER 3 - Kim Brown, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Thailand
NOVEMBER 4 - The Fall Children's Rally today at Parchment Valley Conference Center
NOVEMBER 5 - Nancy Rice, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
NOVEMBER 6 - The ministry of Connolly Memorial Baptist Church; Danny Mitchell, pastor (Logan-Mingo)
NOVEMBER 7 - The ministry of Flaggy Meadow Baptist Church (Fairmont)
NOVEMBER 8 - Jonathan Turner, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
NOVEMBER 9 - The ministry of Hepzibah Baptist Church; Todd Jarman, pastor (Judson)
NOVEMBER 10 - The ministry of Oceana First Baptist Church; Jerry Cook, pastor (Rockcastle)
NOVEMBER 11 - Kit Ripley, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Thailand
NOVEMBER 12 - Jennifer Huber, administrative assistant for Student Ministries, West Virginia Baptist Convention
NOVEMBER 13 - The ministry of Olive Baptist Church (Coal River)
NOVEMBER 14 - The ministry of Pea Ridge Baptist Church; Daniel Londeree, pastor (Guyandotte)
NOVEMBER 15 - The ministry of Jordan Run Baptist Church; Charles Stoner, pastor (Eastern)
NOVEMBER 16 - The Jr. High Convention begins tomorrow
NOVEMBER 17 - Lea Lindero, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Thailand
NOVEMBER 18 - David Parajon, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Nicaragua
NOVEMBER 19 - Bonnie Smith, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
NOVEMBER 20 - The ministry of Albright Baptist Church; Joe Lamm, pastor (Goshen)
NOVEMBER 21 - The ministry of Richwood First Baptist Church; Gary Carpenter, pastor (Hopewell)
NOVEMBER 22 - Brenda Rosier, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
NOVEMBER 23 - The ministry of Diamond Baptist Church; Richard Pursley, pastor (Kanawha Valley)
NOVEMBER 24 - Joel Hoefle, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Thailand
NOVEMBER 25 - Cari Pauley, chair, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
NOVEMBER 26 - The ministry of Auburn Baptist Church; Harry Drake, pastor (Harrisville)
NOVEMBER 27 - The ministry of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church; Michael Wamsley, pastor (Broad Run)
NOVEMBER 28 - The ministry of Union Valley Baptist Church; William Law, pastor (Parkersburg)
NOVEMBER 29 - The ministry of Big Union Baptist Church; Kenneth Adkins, pastor (Elk Valley)
NOVEMBER 30 - Teresa Miller, assistant director of operations, Parchment Valley Conference Center

West Virginia Baptist Convention staff and missionaries listed are on the occasion of their birthday.

Coming Events

OCTOBER

October 3

Retired Ministers' and Mates' Luncheon
Parchment Valley Conference Center

October 7

West Virginia Baptist Convention
Executive Board and Commission
Meetings
Parchment Valley Conference Center

October 19-20

West Virginia Baptist Convention
Annual Meeting
New Baptist Church, Huntington

October 19

Pastors4Pastors: The Ministers' Council
Event
Fifth Avenue Baptist Church,
Huntington

October 19

American Baptist Women's Day
New Baptist Church, Huntington

October 19

American Baptist Men's Event
Museum of Radio and Technology

October 20-22

Baptist Campus Ministries' Fall Retreat
Camp Cowen

October 28

School of Christian Studies
Ministerial Ethics (Mod-2) One-Day
Class with Bill Brown
Parchment Valley Conference Center

NOVEMBER

November 4

Fall Children's Rally
Parchment Valley Conference Center

November 10

Veteran's Day Holiday
West Virginia Baptist Convention
Office CLOSED

West Virginia Baptist Newsletter Submissions

Send submissions for *The West Virginia Baptist* to: thewobaptist@wvbc.org or mail submissions to the West Virginia Baptist Convention, Attention: Donna, P.O. Box 1019, Parkersburg, West Virginia 26102. If you are submitting text, send typed copy only. We no longer accept handwritten text. We also accept hard copy and digital photos of 300 dpi (dots per inch). Please include a caption for your photo and your name and address if you want your photo returned.

Deadline for submission is the 3rd of odd numbered months.

The **West Virginia Baptist** is a newsletter of the West Virginia Baptist Convention, associated with the American Baptist Churches, USA,

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Editor: Rev. John E. Simmons
Assistant Editor: Mrs. Valma Adams
Layout: Mrs. Donna Snyder



WORLD MISSION OFFERING GOAL: \$450,000

*This offering includes support for our West Virginia missionary partners:
Juan and Denise Aragon, Debbie Mulneix, Keith and Debbie Myers
and J.D. and Rhonda Reed.*

Please remember our partners as you prepare your 2018 budgets.

West Virginia Baptist Convention
P.O. Box 1019
Parkersburg, WV 26102-1019

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